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UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Civil Justice

Muhammadan clerks in the Judicial department, Vizagapatam and Ganjam districts.

1321 Q.—ABDUL WAHAB SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Muhammadan clerks employed in the Civil Judicial department of Vizagapatam and Ganjam districts;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is not a single Muhammadan clerk either on Rs. 60 to Rs. 80 grade or Rs. 80 to Rs. 120 grade in the above two districts;

(c) whether there are no qualified Muhammadan or non-Brahman clerks to be promoted to these grades in those districts; and

(d) whether there are any unpassed non-Muhammadan clerks in the above grades in the two districts;

(e) whether the policy of promoting unpassed and unqualified Brahman clerks to the higher grades is still observed in spite of the existence of non-Brahman and Muhammadan passed men; and

(f) whether deafness of clerks is taken as a disqualification for promotion to the higher grade?

A.—(a) Vizagapatam—Two.
Ganjam—One.

(b) The facts are as stated by the hon. Member.

(c) Vizagapatam—There are no qualified Muhammadan clerks; but there are qualified non-Brahman clerks.

Ganjam—There are no qualified non-Brahman clerks, but there is one Muhammadan clerk, who though not declared eligible for University courses of study, has passed the Civil and Criminal Judicial Tests.

(d) Yes.

(e) No.

(f) The answer depends on the degree of deafness and the extent to which the defect will affect the clerk's efficiency in the discharge of a particular kind of duty.

Alleged irregularities of the Official Assignee.

1322 Q.—MR. RAMANATH GOENKA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) in how many cases (since the present Official Assignee took charge) a declaration of dividend has been made in six months from the date of adjudication as required by section 69 of the Presidency Towns Insolvency Act;

(b) what is the total number of cases of adjudication and the number of declaration of such dividends from the date the present Official Assignee took charge;

(c) what are the moneys now standing to the credit of the insolvency of Mr. Ar. Ar. Sm. Arunachallam Chettiyar, M. A. R. N. Ramanathan Chettiyar, R. K. Abdul Rahiman Sahib & Co. and T. Nurudeen Sahib;

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(d) whether the Government are aware that the Official Assignee has been carrying on indefinitely various kinds of business in competition with the trade ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Official Assignee is now carrying on business (a) as a Cinema Proprietor, (b) as a Chemist, (c) as an Aerated Water Manufacturer, (d) as a Sugar Manufacturer and (e) as a Distiller ;

(f) whether it is a fact that in carrying on such business the Official Assignee utilizes moneys other than those belonging to the estate involved ;

(g) whether it is a fact that more than Rs. 50,000 was advanced to the Law Printing and Publishing business carried on by the Official Assignee in the insolvency of T. A. Venkaswami Rao ;

(h) how much money was actually advanced, how much has been recovered and how much is the balance ; whether these are things done with the permission of the Government ;

(i) whether complaints have been received of the great hardship caused to the public by the practice of the Official Assignee taking out summonses for small sums to persons resident in all parts of India and Burma ; and

(j) whether the Government propose to take any steps to prevent such hardship ?

A.—(a) to (g) The Government have no information.

(h) The answer to the first part is that the Government have no information and the answer to the second is in the negative.

(i) No complaints have been received by the Government.

(j) The control over the Official Assignee is vested in the hon. the Chief Justice, who is the appropriate authority to investigate and deal with the points raised by the hon. Member.

Irrigation

Provision of a separate channel for the ryots of Konalam village.

1323 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Konalam and Velur villages in Arkonam taluk, North Arcot district, have one common Isa eri to irrigate their wet lands ;

(b) whether water is available for irrigation to Konalam ryots only after the lands of the ryots at Velur are irrigated owing to the absence of a separate channel for Konalam village ;

(c) whether the Executive Engineer, North Arcot, has undertaken to provide a separate channel, if the ryots of Konalam village are prepared to bear the cost thereof ; and

(d) whether the Government will consider the advisability of providing the channel at their own cost as the ryots of the village are very poor ?

A.—(a) to (c) The answer is in the affirmative.

(d) The answer is in the negative.

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Railways

Location of Cocanada on the main line.

1324 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table the communication received from the Agent, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, referred to in the answer to question No. 1144 answered on 4th November 1927 regarding the location of Cocanada on the main line?

A.—The relevant part of the Agent's letter was as follows :—

The proposal involves an addition of eleven miles to the main line run, involving a longer journey and an extra charge for all main line passengers and goods. It is considered that the inconvenience and loss to the general public would more than counterbalance any advantages which the local inhabitants of Cocanada would derive from the change.

Land Revenue

Proposed closing of the Padne Bar in South Kanara.

1325 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to the answers to Mr. Schammad's questions Nos. 698 and 699 answered on 19th October 1927 on the subject of the closing of the Padne Bar in South Kanara, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what action Government are going to take or have taken on the proposal to close the Padne Bar near Nileshtar in South Kanara?

A.—The feasibility of closing the Padne Bar and of opening the Kavoy Bar is being investigated by the Harbour Engineer in Chief to the Government. A preliminary note on the subject has been received and is under the consideration of the Government.

Improvements to the Manniar and reduction in assessment.

1326 Q.—Mr. K. S. SIVASUBRAHMANYA AYYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that at the settlement of 1895, notwithstanding the reduction of the source of irrigation of Manniar from class I to class 2 on account of its defective irrigation, there was no corresponding reduction in the rate of assessment and that the rate of enhancement for the Manniar mirasidars at that settlement was 28 per cent; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to remove the long-standing grievances of the Manniar mirasidars by effecting immediate improvements to the Manniar and also by lowering the rate of assessment?

A.—(a) & (b) The Manniar as a whole was not reduced from class I to class II at the settlement of 1895. In respect of 18,814 acres out of a total ayacut of 24,158 acres, it was treated as a second-class source instead of a first-class source with the result that the increase in the assessment on those 18,814 acres was 14 per cent instead of 28 per cent.

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Minor Irrigation

Repairs to the irrigation tank of Pallikuppam village.

1327 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the irrigation tank of Pallikuppam village, Vellore taluk, is in need of repairs, and is incapable of holding enough water at present;

(b) whether there is a river channel feeding it;

(c) what is the extent of the wet ayacut under it and the extent of waste and well-fed irrigation for the last five years;

(d) whether it is a fact that the ryots of this village were asked by the tahsildar to remove the prickly-pear from the tank-bund;

(e) whether it is a fact that no estimates for repairs have yet been sanctioned; and

(f) whether Government will be pleased to enquire into the matter?

A.—(a) The tank is silted up and is incapable of holding water up to its previous capacity.

(b) No; the water issuing from the sluice of the tank is joined by a river channel and the combined source so formed irrigates an ayacut of 64.75 acres.

(c) The tank has no separate ayacut of its own. There has been no waste under the combined source during the past five years. There are 16 wells in the ayacut supplementing the supply of water to an extent of 53.50 acres.

(d) Yes.

(e) & (f) In March 1926, an estimate for Rs. 2,360 for repairs and improvements to the tank was prepared. The main proposal was to raise the F.T.L. of the tank by two feet with the object of improving its capacity. The proposal was however dropped as the irrigation under the tank was sufficiently supplemented by the river channel.

Public Service

Alleged dismissal of the Head Accountant in Kaikalur Taluk office.

1328 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Patri Venkata Krishnarao, Head Accountant in the Kaikalur Taluk office, was dismissed from service for alleged negligence in not being able to detect forged and fabricated bills that were presented to him for encashment;

(b) whether the criminal case that was instituted against him was in respect of 3 bills out of a large number of bills with reference to which there was suspicion of fabrication and whether the 3 bills were chosen as affording the strongest case for the prosecution;

(c) whether the High Court after a complete trial of the case acquitted him honourably;

(d) whether he subsequently filed appeals against the order of dismissal and submitted memorials for consideration of the order of dismissal and for reinstatement in service and whether they were rejected; and

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(e) when an individual is found not guilty by the High Court, why the Government did not consider the desirability of reinstating the individual in service or retiring him on pension?

A.—(a) P. V. Krishna Rao was dismissed from service for gross negligence.

(b) The criminal case against him was that he abetted an offence under section 477-A of the Indian Penal Code—i.e., falsification of accounts—in respect of three contingent bills.

(c) He was acquitted by the High Court.

(d) Yes.

(e) He was not dismissed for abetting an offence under section 477-A of the Indian Penal Code but for gross negligence which is not necessarily a criminal offence.

Clerical establishment in the Registration department.

1329 Q.—Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM: With reference to the answer to my question No. 17 (d) at the meeting of the Legislative Council, dated 23rd August 1927, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether each District Registrar is preparing and causing to be printed at the Government Press, Madras, in Form K under Departmental Order No. 106 (a) of the Registration Department, Madras, a list of the clerical establishment, permanent and acting, corrected yearly up to 30th June;

(b) whether such printed annual lists are being sent to the Inspector-General of Registration as soon as they are printed and manuscript copies are also being sent on the 5th of every second month corrected and brought up to date under the same Departmental Order No. 106 (b);

(c) whether an approved list of temporary clerks is being printed at the end of the list of clerks in each district (Order No. 106) headed 'acting clerks and section writers' under Order No. 89 (d) of the Departmental Orders of the Madras Registration Department and sent along with list under Order No. 106 to the Inspector-General of Registration; and

(d) the total number of acting clerks included in the approved list of temporary clerks of the Registration Department from the district of Madura in acting service up to 30th April 1927 and the number of such temporary clerks who were ousted from service in pursuance of G.O. No. 965, Public, dated 16th November 1926, and G.O. No. 137, Public, dated 14th February 1927?

A.—(a) Yes. The list is printed annually corrected up to the 31st March.

(b) Three copies of the list are submitted to the Inspector-General as soon as they are printed and three copies of the same list on the 5th of every second month corrected and brought up to date in manuscript. Entire manuscript copies are prepared only when the stock of printed copies is exhausted.

(c) Yes. The correct designation of the list is 'Approved list of acting and temporary clerks.'

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- (d) The number on the list on 30th April 1927 was 34 including 13 with a service of less than six months. Twenty-four were under G.O. No. 965, Public, dated the 16th November 1926, ineligible for further employment: six of these however became eligible under G.Os. No. 137, Public, dated the 14th February 1927, and No. 675, Public, dated the 29th July 1927, and were re-employed.

Labour

Recruitment of labourers to plantations from South Kanara.

1330 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to the answer to my question No. 828 answered on 22nd October 1927, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state after enquiring from the United Planters' Association of Southern India—

(a) the number of labourers recruited by the Association from South Kanara and sent to plantations in Mysore, Malabar, Nilgiris and Coimbatore districts in the years 1926 and 1927, the different communities and castes to which they belong;

(b) what steps the Association takes to ensure the accommodation, medical treatment and other amenities of life in the labour plantations of the labourers;

(c) how many of the labourers sent by the Association to the plantations in the places mentioned returned in 1926 and 1927 to the district of South Kanara; and

(d) whether it is a fact that a large number of the labourers returned broken down in health and wealth and, if so, what is the number of labourers in such condition and whether the Government propose to enquire into the causes and remedy the same?

A.—The Government do not think that the figures asked for could be collected without an amount of trouble which could hardly be justified by any purpose which they could serve: but they have referred to the United Planters' Association of Southern India.

Local Fund Accounts

Maintenance of records in local boards and municipalities.

1331 Q.—MR. I. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that Local Fund auditors characterize the maintenance of records in almost all local boards and municipalities as unsatisfactory;

(b) whether Government have received any complaints that these auditors pass severe remarks against local boards on insufficient grounds and for trivial lapses;

(c) whether any steps are taken by Government towards the rectification of such defects so as to bring them to the standard desired by these auditors; and

(d) whether Government propose to fix any standard to which these local boards are expected to work up, for the guidance of these auditors?

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4.—(a) The general result of the audit of each institution is determined by the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts who scrutinizes each audit report. Complete information as regards the results of 1926-27 is not available yet ; but taking the results of 1925-26, out of 944 audit reports on local boards and municipalities, including the elementary education fund accounts, only 506 or 54 per cent were declared to be 'unsatisfactory'.

(b) A few such complaints have been received.

(c) The audit reports of all local bodies, except unions, are forwarded with the chairman's or president's reply to Government by the Examiner, and Government comment on the several defects brought out in the reports and issue their comments in the shape of a Government Order. These comments are directions to local bodies to correct the defects brought to light and to improve the maintenance of their accounts. In the case of the union boards the criticism of their audit reports and replies has been entrusted to the presidents of district boards, who follow a procedure similar to that adopted by Government and described above. In addition to these criticisms Government review the annual consolidated audit report submitted to them by the Examiner. On the Consolidated Audit Report for 1925-26, they passed the following remarks among others :—

“Several of these councils can well afford to employ a capable staff for the maintenance of their accounts and registers and the Government trust that wherever necessary incompetent men will be replaced by competent accountants and that the chairmen will interest themselves more directly and exercise closer supervision over the work of their staff.

“The Government pay a monthly subsidy to each district board towards the cost of the accountants employed for the compilation of its accounts and of the accounts of the taluk boards in the district. If the accounts of any board in a district are not properly maintained it is open to the Government to withhold the subsidy due to the district board and to take other steps to enforce efficiency. The presidents of the district boards of South Kanara, Coimbatore and Madura are requested to bear this in mind.

“Local bodies should also remember that loans and grants from provincial funds may be refused to them if they fail to insist on the chairman or the president seeing to the proper maintenance of their accounts. Detailed instructions are given in the orders on the individual audit reports and the Government hope that chairmen and presidents will take effective steps to improve the condition of their accounts before the next audit. In the absence of a distinct improvement the Government will be constrained to adopt the measures indicated in the preceding paragraphs.”

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The standard desired by the Audit department and Government is absolute accuracy and an adherence to rules and orders; and while it may be difficult to realize this ideal, at the same time it rests entirely with the local bodies to maintain their accounts in a far more efficient state than they do at present and also to rectify many of the defects pointed out in audit which unfortunately many of them fail to do and the defects continue from year to year.

- (d) Obviously it is not possible for Government to fix any intermediate standard of efficiency in the accounts. They can only set a standard of absolute accuracy and judge local bodies by the degree by which they fall short of it.

Education

Industrial classes attached to the training schools in Malabar.

1332 Q.—Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any industrial classes attached to the training schools in Malabar and, if so, the nature of industries taught in each school;

(b) the total expenses on and the income derived from the sale-proceeds of the articles made in each school for the past year; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the rattan industries taught in Badagara institution is of a most popular and useful kind and, if so, whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce it into other schools also?

- A.—(a) There are no 'industrial' classes attached to training schools in Malabar. If the hon. Member refers to manual training, classes in the following subjects have been opened in the training schools:—

Name of training school.	Subject in which manual training is imparted.
Government Training School, Cannanore.	Woodwork and mechanical drawing
Do. Calicut ...	Do.
Do. Palghat ...	Weaving.
Do. Badagara.	Rattan and bamboo work.
Do. Malla-puram.	Rattan and bamboo work.
Do. Tellicherry	Woodwork.
Malabar Mission Training School, Nettur.	Weaving.

- (b) The total expenditure incurred last year on the manual training classes referred to above was Rs. 5,175 and the total income Rs. 356.
- (c) The class in rattan and bamboo work in the Government Training School, Badagara, is reported to be working satisfactorily. If proposals for the introduction of this subject in other schools are received they will be considered.

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Grants to the Andhra University for developing its teaching side.

1333 Q.—MR. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any proposals were submitted by the Andhra University for grants for developing its teaching side; and

(b) if so, in what stage they are?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The proposals are under consideration.

Defalcations in the grants to schools in Malabar.

1334 Q.—MR. K. UPPI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was any case of defalcation of grant-in-aid money in any of the ranges of the Deputy Inspectors of Schools in Malabar;

(b) if so, in which range, when, and what amount;

(c) whether the person or persons involved in the case have been prosecuted, and if so, when;

(d) whether any enquiry was made by any person if any other such cases existed in the same range or other ranges;

(e) if so, by whom and when;

(f) whether it is a fact that grants were drawn in the name of imaginary schools in Malabar; and

(g) if Government have no information, whether they will enquire into the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) In the Manjeri Mappilla range, in the year 1926-27; Rupees 384-12-0.

(c) The matter is under police investigation.

(d) & (e) No other case has been reported. The Deputy Inspectors of Schools are expected to take proper action if they are aware of any.

(f) Whether the case referred to in (a) falls under this category can be seen only after the results of the judicial enquiry are known.

Report of the Special Assistant Educational Officer regarding Mappilla education.

1335 Q.—MR. K. UPPI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received any report from the Special Assistant Educational Officer with regard to Mappilla education; and

(b) if so, whether it will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not received any report.

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Pay of pandits and munhis in Government Arts colleges.

1336 Q.—MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what are the several grades of salary fixed for pandits and munhis in Government Arts colleges (first grade and second grade), high (or secondary) schools, middle (or lower secondary) schools;

(b) how those grades of pay are distributed among the said three kinds of institutions;

(c) what is the principle underlying the creation and distribution of these grades of pay;

(d) what are the grades of salary fixed for the teachers of the other non-technical subjects who, by the nature of their work, correspond to pandits and munhis in these respective institutions;

(e) what is the principle underlying the creation and distribution of these grades of pay of the other teachers;

(f) whether there is any common principle or system observed in fixing the grades of salary of these two classes of teachers, pandits and munhis and the corresponding teachers of other non-technical subjects; and

(g) if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (b)—

	RS
First-grade colleges	100—5—125
Do.	75—4—95
Do.	50—3—65
Do.	40—2—50

NOTE.—In one or other of the first-grade colleges, there are pandits or munhis in one or other of the above scales.

Second-grade colleges	50—3—65
Do.	40—2—50
High and middle schools	40—2—50

In the madrasa-i-Azam, Madras, there are two posts of munhis on Rs. 75—4—95 each.

(c) The different grades have been fixed with reference to the qualifications required and the nature of the duties to be performed by the incumbents.

(d) & (e) The cases of the other teachers are not parallel as there is no similarity in respect of work or qualifications required, and the question of grades, their creation and distribution does not therefore arise.

(f) & (g) The different grades of salaries have been fixed on the basis explained in the answer to clause (c).

Local Boards*Disposal of appeals by local board servants.*

1337 Q.—MR. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there are any rules prescribing a time-limit within which local bodies are required to dispose of appeals preferred by their servants against departmental punishments inflicted on them?

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A.—No time-limit has been fixed for the disposal of appeals. Appeals are not however heard by local bodies. They are heard by

- (i) a standing appeal committee of the municipal council or the district board in the case of municipal and district board ; servants
- (ii) the president, district board, in the case of taluk board servants and ;
- (iii) the president, taluk board, in the case of union board servants.

Roads

Construction of bridges in the Great Northern Trunk road.

1338 Q.—Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the places in the Great Northern Trunk road where rivers are unbridged ; and

(b) whether there are any proposals to construct bridges at such places ?

A.—(a) A list of unbridged crossings on the Great Northern Trunk road^a (the bridging of which is estimated to cost more than Rs. 25,000) is appended.

(b) There are perforated road dams at places Nos. (13), (14) and (15) in the list. Bridges at places Nos. (19), (24) and (26) have been taken up and are under execution. The question of providing funds for bridges at places Nos. (18), (20) and (25) is under consideration in connexion with the budget for 1928-29. The Government are sincere in their desire to see all trunk roads bridged throughout, and are taking the necessary steps. The remaining crossings on the Great Northern Trunk road will be attended to in their turn.

Agriculture

Qualifications of the Principal of the Agricultural College, Coimbatore.

1339 Q.—Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the qualifications of the present Principal of the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, including his training in agriculture, if any ;

(b) whether there are equally qualified people with greater service serving in the college as subordinates to the Principal ; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the same ?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the establishment list of the Department of Agriculture.

(b) The Government do not think so.

(c) Does not arise.

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Co-operative Societies*Vellore Trade Union.*

1340 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased—

(a) to call for a report with reference to the answer to clauses (c) to (h) of my question No. 740 answered on 20th October 1927; and

(b) to state whether it is a fact that on the strength of the newly organized loan and sale society alone Mr. Murugesu Mudaliyar has got a seat on the executive of the District Bank at Vellore?

A.—(a) The Government do not propose to call for a report.

(b) The Government have no information.

Industries*Quantity of petroleum consumed and imported into the Madras Presidency.*

1341 Q.—Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity of petrol consumed in the Presidency for industrial and automobile and other purposes for the years 1924-25, 1925-26 and 1926-27;

(b) the quantity of petrol imported into the Madras Presidency through the ports of Madras, Tuticorin and other ports in the Madras Presidency;

(c) the raw materials required for the manufacture of industrial alcohol; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House the information collected in regard to the availability of the requisite raw materials for the manufacture of industrial alcohol?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) Petrol is not separately recorded for statistical purposes. It is included under the head 'Dangerous petroleum flashing below 76° F., benzene including petrol and benzol.' The number of gallons of the above imported from Rangoon during the last three years are—

	TONS.			
1924-25	...	...	...	4,103,270
1925-26	...	...	...	6,269,305
1926-27	...	...	...	6,963,668

There have been only very small imports of the stuff from foreign countries.

(c) The raw materials are (1) molasses, (2) mohwa flowers, (3) cashewnut fruits, (4) dhupa fruits, (5) palm nuts, etc. Power alcohol could also be produced from (1) cellulosic materials, e.g., rice straw; (2) vegetable materials rich in starch, e.g., sweet potatoes, cassava, maize; (3) tuber and root crops; (4) spoilt food-grains; (5) sulphite liquor. The synthetic production of alcohol is another possibility, the likely raw materials being (1) calcium carbide, (2) ethylene in the coal gas, and (3) water gas.

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(d) The information collected in the past is summarized below :—

Mohwa flowers.—The quantity of mohwa flowers that would be available annually from the Upper Godavari division and the Oriya Agency was estimated at about 3,500 tons. Information in regard to other areas is not available.

Molasses.—There is no information regarding quantities available. The available supplies appear however to be insufficient. Imports during last two years amounted to 2,470 and 4,534 tons.

Dhupa fruit.—The tree occurs chiefly in the South Kanara district. Roughly speaking, the number of trees will be from 50,000 to 70,000, and it might be possible to collect 20,000 tons of fruit, the yield of a full-grown tree in a good year being one ton of ripe fruit.

Cashewnut fruit.—The tree occurs in South Kanara, Malabar, and probably in the Guntur and Godavari districts. The quantity of the fruits that could be collected per annum from South Kanara district was estimated at 10,000 tons. The alcohol yield of certain samples tested was found to be 3·8 per cent on the weight of fruit taken.

Starch-bearing materials.—Some information as to the occurrence of starch-bearing materials was collected, but the matter was not pursued further as the enquiries indicated that there was such a great demand for starchy or sugary substances for edible purposes that the commercial production of alcohol from such substances was extremely doubtful.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE.

* The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I move

' That the House do place on record its profound grief and sense of the great loss sustained by the Government and the country by the demise of Diwan Bahadur Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., the first President of the Council under the Reforms Act, and convey its sincere sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.'

"On the occasion when Sir Rajagopala Achariyar retired from his labours as President, this House had the opportunity and the privilege of placing on record its sentiments in regard to his work and his career. I do not therefore propose to speak at length on that matter; but it is my duty now that he has been taken away from amongst us to remind this House of the great qualities possessed by Sir Rajagopala Achariyar, of the multifarious activities of that important worthy, of his fine career as an official President of this Council and especially is it my duty to emphasize that as President of this Council he fulfilled a great and unique part.

"He laid down sound conventions which are found even now to be of the utmost assistance to his successors and to the Council at large; and in his conduct of the Chair, it may be said that he was by no means the least of those who have started the Councils of India on the right lines and who kept them going on sound lines of progress. He was a person of wonderful